

The DCMC Performance Labor Accounting System Office

March 1999 Activity Report

PLAS Office Activities

PLAS Deployment Activities:

- Published the following CY 1999 PLAS-O-Grams through March:
 - 99-06, Charging Guidelines for CCAS refreshed instructions for reporting Contingency CAS effort with PLAS process and program codes. (Information Memorandum in coordination)
 - 99-05, PLAS Timeout Setting advised PLAS users who use the IBM Internet Service Provider for remote PLAS access about various steps they can take to improve response time.
 - 99-04, Y2K Supplier Capability Assessment announced the creation of PLAS program code NP055, Y2K assessment. It explains the conditions under which NP055 should be used. (Tasking Memorandum 99-106)
 - 9-03, Updated ACAT 1 Program Listing updated the PLAS ACAT I program codes based on revised Major Defense Acquisition Program (MDAP) Listings published by the Office of the Undersecretary of Defense for Acquisition and Technology.
 - 99-02, FY99 Performance Plan 1st Quarter Update outlined PLAS changes caused by the 1st Quarter update of the FY99 DCMC Performance Plan. Deleted five performance goals and hid the respective PLAS program codes. Updated the Performance Goal/PLAS Process code crosswalk and SmartPLAS rules. (Tasking Memorandum 99-77)
 - 99-01, Requesting PLAS Code Changes explains the procedure for initiating changes to existing PLAS process and program codes. (Policy Change Notice 99-40)
- Began independent analysis of District organizations that reported PLAS usage rates in excess of 101% against DBMS hours. This will result in a coordinated effort to influence PLAS reporting accuracy at locations which habitually report inaccurate usage rates.
- Updated SmartPLAS rules for each PLAS program code affected by the 1st Quarter update to the Performance Plan. Posted updated rules to the PLAS PMC Homepage.
- Participated in the creation of the new PLAS Oracle instance for DLA-FO. Comptroller is the first non-DCMC activity to deploy PLAS. The database is operational as of 31 March. We continue to provide technical assistance to the Comptroller's staff.
- Attended the FY00 DCMC Business Planning Workshop in Springfield, Virginia during the week of March 15. Briefed breakout session attendees on the PLAS Office's responsibilities associated with the FY00 DCMC Business Plan and briefed common PLAS/Performance Plan Program Code reporting errors.
- Continued field testing of PLAS 9.0.3, a version designed to speed user response time when connecting remotely. Minor functionality changes are also a feature of this release, scheduled for April, 1999.
- Hosted a visit from Mr. Greg Colbert, ABC Project Lead (AFMC/ASC) Wright-Patterson AFB, and Lt.Col. Jeanette Heidmann, Director Financial Management - AWACS SPO, Hanscom AFB, to discuss potential use of PLAS for an AFMC pilot ABC study on the AWACS program.

COGNOS/PowerPlay:

- Provided PLAS and Unit Cost data and analysis for the DCMC Financial Management Review on March 25 in support of several initiatives.

- Created a special PowerPlay cube displaying DCMC attorney PLAS hours by program and process code to ensure that Counsel hours are correctly reported to the National Legal Program codes. This quarterly cube will be useful for evaluating Counsel organization changes.
- Created an additional PowerPlay cube to display PLAS hours by Reimbursable Contract and Document Control Number down to the User ID level for the Reimbursable Program administered by DCMC-BA. This cube will allow the Districts to determine if the time devoted to specific contracts and DCNs is being under-reported. The cube will run on the last day of each month to coincide with the DCARRS cycle.

Unit Cost:

- Participated in the DCMC Unit Cost Data Integrity Sub-Team effort to improve the Unit Cost tools available to CAO Commanders. This included updating the DCMC Guide to Unit Cost, and development of a COGNOS Portfolio "Toolkit" containing push button menus of Unit Cost reports to use in monitoring Unit Cost data.
- Conducted/Attended training designed to expand the number of people trained to participate in Unit Cost site visits.
- Continued to generate DCMC Unit Cost reports and PowerPlay cubes.
- Provided statistical analyses of Unit Cost performance data for the FMR. Changes for this FMR included calculating new variance control limits for Process Profile, Unit Cost Rate of Change, and Cost per Unit for each CAO; also computed new percentage-based composite index to display overall differences from DCMC's average cost.

Major New Events for April and Beyond

- Assist in the development of DCMC-BF catalogs for PLAS data in the DCMC Information and Automated Metrics System.
- Draft a proposal to the Executive Director, Program Integration (DCMC-P), to modify the link between MDAPs and our PLAS listing of ACAT I program codes. If adopted, we would delay hiding MDAPs in PLAS for prescribed periods, i.e., six, nine, or 12 months to continue to collect programmatic information after a change in ACAT designation. Also explore the possibility of converting to the use of Weapons System codes in PLAS.
- Continue Unit Cost site visits.
- Deploy PLAS 9.0.3.
- Describe functional requirements for a future PLAS release incorporating enhanced Unit Cost and ABC data collection/reporting principles.
- Update PLAS Help File in anticipation of PLAS Release 9.03.
- Continue to provide support to DLA-FO in PLAS program management.
- Brief DLA Counsel on PLAS system and operation for possible adoption as their ABC labor hour collection device; proposed implementation - July 1999.

PLAS Help Line Activity

- Total PLAS Help System inquiries recorded since August 1996: 2440
- PLAS Help System contacts/inquiries during March: 40
- During the 2nd quarter, our total 100 inquiries were evenly divided between technical/general questions and PLAS code charging questions.

Prepared by Don Peterson, PLAS Program Manager

Questions or comments may be directed to the PLAS Office
DSN: 930-6590 or (773) 825-6590. Fax extension: 5949
PLAS Voice Help Line: 1-888-PLASINFO
E-mail: PLASHELP (PLASHELP@mwest.dcmdc.dla.mil)